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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015

It's no joke

Port Colborne funnyman Joe Crawford has been nominated comedian of the year and will learn if he's a winner in North Carolina.
Page 2

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Page 14

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One year at the helm

FRANK DREMAN/POSTMEDIA NETWORK
Port Colborne Mayor John Maloney is pictured in his office at city hall.

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UPFRONT

■ **AWARDS:** Port Colborne entertainer gaining attention

Crawford nominated comedian of the year

ALLAN BENNER
Postmedia Network

Joe Crawford doesn't know who nominated him or why he was nominated, but he's not complaining.

The Port Colborne resident is in the running for two accolades at the fifth annual Artists Music Guild Heritage Awards Nov. 14 in Monroe, N.C.

Crawford was one of three people nominated as best radio personality for a show he broadcasts over the Internet each Wednesday, and for the second year straight he was nominated for the comedian of the year award. He's one of five people vying for top comedian accolade.

But Crawford, who called the nominations "a huge honour," said he was surprised when he learned he was a nominee for the prestigious awards being presented in the U.S. because it has been many years since he performed south of the border.

"I always perform all across Canada, but never down there," he said.

Crawford suspects his online radio show, as well as online presence, must have garnered a significant audience south of the border, leading to the nominations.

Crawford said the awards gala "is very huge."

"They have tons of celebrities that go there, and this year at the awards show Dee Dee Sharp, Martha Reeves,

Mallory Lewis with Lamb Chop, Bucky Covington, and Chubby Checker is also going to be there," he said.

Crawford has been entertaining audiences for about 15 years, gaining recognition for his onstage antics such as imitating such divas as Dolly Parton using balloons to fill out a red dress he wears and Tina Turner wearing "a special purple short mini-skirt."

Between parodies of famous singers, Crawford said he does tell "jokes that I write and tell funny stories."

His radio show has also brought in a surprising number of big name celebrities such as Tim Conway, Bobbie Vinton, The Village People, Joan Rivers and "tons and tons of people."

"For a little town boy — or man now I guess — not affiliated with a major network ... I'm still get the talent that I'm getting on my shows," he said. "It just boggles my mind. This goes to show no matter what you do and how persistent you are, if you work hard enough it's going to pay off."

He said he has managed to arrange interviews with celebrities by working with the two casinos in Niagara Falls to interview entertainers scheduled to perform there.

Upcoming celebrity interviews include with Kenny Rogers and Jerry Springer. After years of imitating Parton, Crawford will be inter-

viewing the real country singer for his radio show, too.

His interview with Parton will be broadcast Nov. 25 from 9-10 p.m. Listeners can tune in through Crawford's website www.joecrawfordlive.com.

"I'm just flabbergasted that I'm getting these names," he said.

While his career as an entertainer is picking up steam, he hasn't started earning enough income to quit his jobs.

"I don't do this full time, even though it feels like it," he said.

In addition to the time dedicated to making people laugh, Crawford works for Port Colborne Wainfleet Community Living as well as teaching piano and vocals. He also is an organist and choir director at a church in Fort Erie.

But Crawford hopes that may be changing as he gains attention as an entertainer.

"To get recognition on more of a national level like during the Heritage Awards, viewed by 32 million people across the United States and in Canada, to have that exposure it's slowly getting there," he said.

Crawford hopes to fares better at this year's Heritage Awards than he did in 2014.

"Last year when I went, I lost against a ventriloquist and a dummy," he said, laughing. "But that's not a big deal. It was nice just going down there and being nominated for something as prestigious as that."



SUPPLIES PHOTO

For the second year in a row, Port Colborne comedian Joe Crawford has been nominated as comedian of the year in a U.S. awards gala.

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■ **MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS:** Port Colborne's mayor pleased to serving in local government

Maloney raises first year of jiggling act

FRANKI IKEMAN
PostMedia Network

It's been a year since Port Colborne native John Maloney was elected mayor.

Maloney said he's learned a lot since taking office.

"Certainly there's a learning curve, a rather large learning curve to bring you up to speed. In my case there's one new councillor and myself," Maloney said.

"You bring yourself up to speed not only with, say, procedure within the council chamber meetings and that, but also the events or the issues that have been percolating out there for perhaps more than several years, you don't have the background," he said.

When voters marked their ballots Oct. 27, 2014 they put Maloney into his first political role at the municipal level.

"I was involved at the federal level, I was 15 years as a member of Parliament, but that's totally different than what I'm doing right now," Maloney said.

"At the city level you're on the front lines. People can approach you anytime of the day — they see you on the street, they see you at the

food store, they see you at the arena, they see you at the marina, they see you at the park — and they'll come and approach you and say 'here's my concern' and you hear their concerns and hopefully try to start the ball rolling to implement what they would like, correct what is wrong."

In Maloney's first year on those front lines, Port Colborne has seen some challenges.

Last winter's frozen water pipes crisis, Maloney said, was a big one, when the city received unprecedented numbers of calls about frozen water services, prompting a review of the way the municipality responds to these calls and the policies it has in place.

"We've had frozen water lines but the problem was that we had so many and it was so consistently cold that it was very difficult."

Other issues tackled in his first year have included projects within city council's strategic plan, which address issues of poverty and quality of life.

In the report to council by the chief administrative officer's department and the health services division, 14 social determinants of health were outlined: income and income distribution, education, unemployment and job security, employment and working conditions, early childhood development, food insecurity, housing, social exclusion, social safety net, health services, aboriginal status, gender, race and job security.

"The idea came up at stra-

tegies of health across the city and make recommendations to council were both passed through council in the past month.

Looking forward to the next three years, Maloney said he wants to see developments in what he calls critical infrastructure projects — projects that may not be "glitzy" such as the Vale community centre but that are essential.

"There are deficient water lines and sewer lines within the community and we know that they're there but they're huge — million dollars to rectify — and you can't do them all at once," Maloney said. "We have what we call shovel-ready projects ready to go. We're hoping that with this new federal government that there will be funding from both the federal government and the provincial government to assist us in addressing some of these critical physical improvements that we need to rectify."

Along with infrastructure improvements, Maloney said he wants to see work done to improve the city's industrial lands so that new and relocating businesses will con-

sider coming to Port Colborne and creating jobs in Niagara's south.

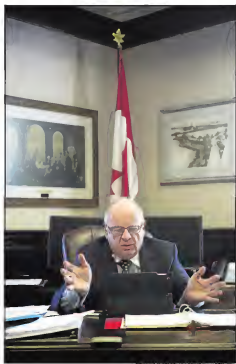
"Unless you have serviced ... industrial lands, then you can't encourage industry to come to town," he said. "So it's a chicken and egg effect. You have to have this infrastructure into the ground so that we can develop lands on which new business could come to our community."

He said that as mayor he often needs to balance many different projects and many interests.

"It's almost like you're a juggler, and you can't do everything and you want things to fall down, but people want improvements so sometimes you're throwing a ball up and grabbing another one and that's what makes it interesting and that's what makes it difficult," Maloney said.

Despite the challenges, Maloney said he enjoys serving the community that he grew up in, and one he believes has much to offer to its residents and its visitors.

"Visit other communities in the Niagara region and you'll appreciate that Port Colborne has a lot going for it," Maloney



Port Colborne Mayor John Maloney is pictured in his office at city hall.

said.

"When I say I'm from Port Colborne I'm darn proud of it."

Interacting with his fellow Port Colborne residents on a daily basis, and hearing their concerns has been the best part about being mayor so far,

he said.

"Being able to address those problems and correct some wrongs makes life better for many people, or a single person ... It gives you a feeling of contribution, it makes you feel good. I think that's probably the best part of my job."

■ **MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS:** City council approves Social Determinants of Health committee

Port Colborne to tackle poverty, health with new committee

FRANKI IKEMAN
PostMedia Network

Port Colborne city council has taken a step toward ensuring the city is a healthy and vibrant community.

In a unanimous vote, council last week approved a report to create a committee of council called the Port Colborne Social Determinants of Health Advisory Committee — Everyone Matters.

It's about making sure that we have everything in place to have a vibrant, active, prosperous community," said Ward 2 Councillor Angie Desmarais, who will sit on the committee.

Desmarais said that the committee will focus on making sure that everyone has

equal opportunity to a healthy community life.

"That's a big piece of work and I know that, but if we don't aim there, we'll never get there," Desmarais said.

In the report to council by the chief administrative officer's department and the health services division, 14 social determinants of health were outlined: income and income distribution, education, unemployment and job security, employment and working conditions, early childhood development, food insecurity, housing, social exclusion, social safety net, health services, aboriginal status, gender, race and job security.

"The idea came up at stra-

tegic planning in January that the new council felt that making sure that we have a healthy community is paramount to this council, and part of being a healthy community is looking at other determinants of health other than physical attributes," said Port Colborne health services co-ordinator Joanne Ferraccioli.

Ferraccioli said she is very pleased that the municipality has reached this point — to have a committee formed, and to be ready to get to work in the near future. She said there can't be a healthy and vibrant community without addressing and acknowledging these social determinants of health, and that a community can't have economic development

without being seen as healthy and vibrant.

"You can't really have one without the other, it's kind of like a hub and spoke," Ferraccioli said. "In the middle is your community, well how can your community help you achieve all of these things that go into a healthy community."

Many of these social determinants revolve around issues of poverty. Ferraccioli compared industry statistics for the city to statistics region-wide and identified specific areas where Port Colborne is struggling compared to the rest of Niagara.

Areas in which Port Colborne struggles, Ferraccioli said, are low income, unem-

ployment, households spending 30 per cent or more of their income on rent and people who have not completed a high school education.

Ferraccioli said that in areas of Port Colborne, 63 per cent of households are spending 30 per cent or more of their income on rent, in comparison to 43 per cent region-wide.

In the report, staff said that in Port Colborne 592 households are on a waiting list for affordable housing and the city has 196 affordable housing units, including senior housing.

Desmarais said this new committee will be important for getting poverty on everybody's radar.

"Poverty is really complex. It's multifaceted, lots of causes and effects. It's not something that just one group of people are going to be able to deal with," she said. "It's about rounding out our community and making sure there's an equal playing field."

"Poverty, Desmarais said, is also very costly.

"A staggering number, I believe \$1.38 billion, is the cost of poverty to Niagara every year," she said.

"Poverty touches so many things, it's important that we do what we can to reduce that effect," Desmarais said.

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I'VE BEEN THINKING

The end is near?

PASTOR MICHAEL MELOD

Faith & St. Peter's Lutheran Churches, Dunnville and Port Colborne

November is here and the end of the church year is at hand (the Sunday nearest Nov. 30 is the last day of the church year).

This brings us to consider not only the end of the old year and the beginning of the new, but also the end of all things, the day when Jesus returns, the Second Advent, the Last Day, the end of this world, Judgment Day — all of these phrases refer to one day at the end of time.

Because there are so many false teachings about Judgment Day, I thought a little bible study would clarify some troubling nonsense that we often hear on the radio and TV, and give comfort and joy to Christians because Jesus wants us to wait for that day with eager expectation and trust in Him, and for us, it is a magnificent day of rejoicing.

Christ's second appearing is one event at the end of history (Isaiah 24:27; Zephaniah 1). God teaches us that five main things will happen on Judgment Day (bible passages may refer to more than one topic, so it is good to look them up and read them all):

1. Christ will come suddenly and visibly. All people will see Him at the same time. Matthew 24:27, 30; Mark 13:24-26; 14:62; Acts 1:11; Revelation 1:7. Jesus said to the disciples, "The days will come when you

will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. And they will say to you, 'Look here!' or 'Look there!' Do not go after them or follow them. For as the lightning that flashes out of one part under heaven shines to the other part under heaven, so also the Son of Man will be in His day." (Luke 12:22-24)

2. Christ will come with power and glory surrounded by angels as trumpets announce His arrival. Matthew 13:39-43, 46; 16:27; 25:31; Luke 21:27; 2 Thessalonians 1:7; Revelation 19:11-14. Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." (Matthew 24:30-31).

3. Christ will come and raise up all the dead in their bodies. Believers in Christ will be raised to everlasting life in heaven and unbelievers to everlasting death in hell. All believers, both the dead and the living, will rise up to meet the Lord in the air as He descends to the earth (this is all the Scriptures say about the "rapture," anything more than this is against God's Word; see 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). Daniel 12:1-3; John 5:27-29; 6:39-40, 44, 54; 1 Corinthians 15:12-57; Revelation 20:11-15. "For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last

on the earth; and after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!" (Job 19:25-27)

4. Christ will come and judge all people. Satan and the demons. Believers in Christ will receive eternal salvation and all enemies of God will receive eternal damnation. (Acts 10:42; 17:31; Romans 2:16; 2 Timothy 4:1, 8; Jude 14-15; Hebrews 9:26; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10; 2:8; Revelation 20:10)

"When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world...' Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels...' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." (Matthew 25:31-34, 41, 46)

5. Christ will come and create "new heavens and a new earth." This refers to a recreation, or restoration of the old creation which was subject to the curse of the Fall. (Romans 8:18-22; 1 Corinthians 15:52-53; Philippians

3:21; Revelation 21:5; Matthew 24:29, 35) "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up." (2 Peter 3:10) Note that the world and whole universe will not melt or burn up until after Jesus arrives and judges on Judgment Day.

God tells us plainly that we can not know when the end will come, and it is sinful to guess (see bible verses above). We are told that it can be any day. Why has God delayed His coming for over two thousand years? He tells us it is because He is patient and merciful. "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is long suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9) Because the end is surely drawing near and the signs are all around us, Christians are to patiently wait for it with all holy preparation and faithfulness to our Lord. (Mark 13:32-37; Romans 13:11-14; Titus 2:11-14; 1 Peter 1:13-15; 2 Peter 3:10-13; 1 John 3:2-3)

Therefore, wait in hope and confidence in Christ your loving Saviour. Look forward to that day when all sin in you and in the world will be gone and you will live forever in your perfected body with Jesus and all others who have died in the faith. Rest in Jesus's promises and in His almighty victory over sin, death and the devil on the cross. Thanks be to God.

Shipwrecks — James Carruthers

SKIP GILLHAM
For Postmedia Network

Early next week will mark the 102nd anniversary of the Great Storm of 1913.

Among the many casualties of that epic disaster was the Canadian bulk carrier *James Carruthers*. It was lost with all hands and remains one of the few hulls from that storm that wreck hunters have been unable to locate.

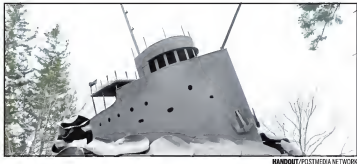
The *James Carruthers* was a new ship. It had been built at Collingwood and entered service on June 18, 1913, for St. Lawrence & Chicago Steam Navigation Co. The 167.64-metre-long freighter was too large for the existing Welland Canal and spent

its time carrying grain and coal on the upper four Great Lakes.

The ship departed Port William on Nov. 6 with a load of grain for Midland. It passed through the Soo Locks, down the St. Mary's River and simply disappeared during what is considered the worst storm to sweep the Great Lakes.

Some speculate that the vessel was overwhelmed while making turn to Georgian Bay. But no one really knows, and until the hull is located, there are more questions than answers. A total of 25 sailors perished somewhere out on the lake.

On the 100th anniversary of the loss, a sculpture was unveiled in a ceremony at Goderich depicting the sinking of the *James Carruthers*.



A sculpture of the *James Carruthers* is shown at Goderich in this November 2013 photo by Roger LeLievre.

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LOCAL NEWS

Lakeshore receives its blessing



HANDOUT / POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Bishop Gerard Berge blesses a new religion classroom at Lakeshore Catholic High School, assisted by Father Peter Walton, pastor of St. John Bosco Catholic Church, to officially mark the completion of the Port Colborne high school's expansion.



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- 10:00 am - Dr. Kate Rhéume-Bleue - Stronger Bones and a Healthier Heart
- 11:30 am - Dr. Marita Schauch - Stress and the Disease Connection
- 1:00 pm - Brenda Watson - Cleansing - Be Your Best!
- 2:30 pm - Dr. Zoltan Rona - Supplements for Longevity

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LOCAL NEWS

■ SKYLON

Niagara's tall tower turns 50

BY SPITERI
Postmedia Network

The Skylon Tower has been eclipsed in size, but it remains a significant landmark.

Aside from the falls itself, the tower in Niagara Falls — celebrating its 50th anniversary this month — is arguably the most identifiable building along the Niagara Falls landscape.

It's believed close to 50 million visitors have taken the 52-second ride in one of three glass-enclosed exterior elevators that glide up and down the outside of the tower's shaft, or climbed its 662 steps. The tower is 160 metres high, and tourists have often been left in awe, as they stand on the observation deck, overlooking the falls 236 metres below.

Many have also eaten at the tower's revolving restaurant, which seats 272 people. The room makes one rotation every hour, giving diners a 360-degree look at Niagara Falls and beyond.

The Skylon Tower opened Oct. 6, 1965. At the time, it was the tallest reinforced concrete structure of its kind in the world.

It was the tallest building in Niagara Falls until 2009, when the Hilton hotel tower, at a height of 183 metres, was built.

City historian Sherman Zavitz said the Skylon Tower was built by Pigott Construction Co. of Hamilton. Six hundred people worked on the \$11-million project, which took 17 months to complete. "It's held up amazingly well," he said. "It's still a stunning site. It still looks as breathtaking now as it did 50 years ago."

Continued on next page

RIDE THE ELEVATOR FOR FREE

To celebrate the Skylon Tower's 50th anniversary, Niagara residents will be able to take a free ride to the top until Nov. 20.

To take the free elevator ride, residents will need to show a piece of photo identification.

"Over the last 50 years, the community has supported us and been there for us every step of the way," said general manager George Yerich Jr. "This is our way of simply showing our appreciation and gratitude. It's true that there is always someone in the Niagara region that has either worked at the Skylon Tower or known someone who has worked there or been influenced by the tower."

"In celebration of our anniversary, we are asking Niagara region residents to reconnect themselves with the Skylon Tower, the city and the view."

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■ SKYLON

Looking back – and up – as the landmark celebrates anniversary

From previous page

Zavitz said although he can't remember the year, he recalls former prime minister Pierre Trudeau delivering a speech during an election campaign at the base of the Skylon Tower.

"I do think for locals, sometimes times we take such things for granted because they're so familiar. But I think for visitors, the majority of them are quite taken with it. It sort of drives the eyes, with its height and style."

"The Skylon Tower is currently owned by the Yerich family."

General manager George Yerich Jr. said his family, which includes his father George Sr., mother Violet, brother Michael and sister Katherine, have owned the tower since 1966.

The original owners were four businessmen who got together and built the tower, including the Pigott family.

Yerich Jr. said he believes the Skylon Tower is linked to Niagara Falls in a similar way the Eiffel Tower is linked to Paris, France, and the CN Tower is to Toronto.

"We believe that we still have the best view in town. Some of the newer hotels have wonderful views, but we think that we're centrally located up front between the two falls and there's nowhere that you can match the view that we have here," he said.

"In a way, we think the tower is a perfect height. Some of the other towers that have been built since, elsewhere in the world, are very tall. This isn't as tall, but if we were too tall, you wouldn't have that spectacular view of the falls, so we think it's perfect."



MIKE CHATSKY/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

The Yerich family owns the Skylon Tower, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this month. George Yerich Sr., surrounded by his two sons, Michael (left) and George Jr., as well as his daughter, Katherine.

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SKYLON TOWER FACTS

- 160:** Metres high
- 236:** Metres above the falls
- 52:** Seconds it takes to ride elevator to top
- 662:** Steps top to bottom
- 50:** Years old
- \$11M:** Cost to build
- 17:** Months to build
- 600:** People worked on construction

Yerich Jr. said BH Architects, formerly known as Bregman and Hamann Architects, out of Toronto, were the firm that designed the Skylon Tower.

Yerich Sr., who attended the opening ceremony of the tower in 1965, said he met important dignitaries at that inaugural, such as former Ontario premier John Robarts and New York governor Nelson Rockefeller.

Yerich Sr. said the tower got its name when officials decided to combine the words sky and pylon. The idea behind the name, according to Yerich Sr., was that the structure looked like a pylon driven into the ground.

Yerich Jr. said he never gets tired of hearing visitors share their positive stories about the tower.

"When a person first gets on the elevator, and as the elevator ascends and rises above the building and they get that first, 'Wow' view of the falls, we hear it all the time, we hear gasps from the customers, we hear the word, 'Wow' in many different

languages," he said.

"People are just absolutely entranced by that view, and it's nice to be able to see that occasionally when I go up the elevator and I hear that from customers. It reminds me that it's an incredible wonder that we have here, and there are many ways to see it, and we feel that we have a unique way to see it."

Niagara Falls councillor and former mayor Wayne Thomson has fond memories of the Skylon Tower.

Thomson, who was first elected in politics in 1968, got married to his wife, Bonnie, at the top of the tower in 1983.

Thomson said the tower is "without exception, one of the finest places to view the falls,"

and has also played a significant role in hosting major events in the community.

They include the annual Stair Climb for Cancer fundraiser that is held at the tower, as well as being the site from where the late Jay Cochrane would walk on a wire to the top of the Hilton hotel.

"It has been a tremendous

asset and a major feature on the landscape," said Thomson. "They picked the right spot, it still looks the same, and as soon as people come here from around the world, they look at that and say, 'Oh my God, I've got to go up that to view the falls.'"

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In The NEWS



The Port Colborne Main St BIA proudly presents a cheque to Big Brothers Big Sister of South Niagara in the amount of \$1492.00 for proceeds from the 1st Annual Main St Stakes at Lock 8 Downs Sawhorse Race on Canal Days weekend.

Pictured here from left to right, Barb Van Der Hayden, Executive Director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Niagara, Kim and Frank Danch of Frank's Home Hardware, Jeni LaMarre, Mark Guilbeault, and Amanda Dirstein of Mark Guilbeault and Associates.

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■ HEALTH CARE

NHS posting ER wait times online

GRANT LAFLECHE
 Postmedia Network

It's happened to nearly everyone at one point or another — you show up at an emergency room seeking medical help, only to wait for hours at a time.

How long that wait will be has always been something of a mystery. Depending on how many patients are already in the queue and how serious your case is compared to others, you may see a doctor in minutes or hours.

A new Niagara Health System initiative is aiming to better inform patients of what kind of wait they may be in for. All NHS emergency departments and urgent care centres are now posting their wait times online.

Using a system developed by Oculus Health Informatics first used at a Kitchener hospital, the NHS website is updated every 20 minutes to provide as close to real time information as possible, said Derek McNally, NHS executive vice-president of clinical services.

"This is happening as part of the NHS continuing moves toward become more transparent and more accountable," McNally said.

The website shows the current average wait time for patients as each of the ERs and urgent care centres, the number of people currently being treated and the number currently waiting.

Aside from helping inform patients, the Oculus system also helps the NHS manage patient flow in the ERs, McNally said.

He when the system was launched in Kitchener, there were some significant outcomes. The most notable was there were fewer non-urgent cases presenting at the ER, which helps reduce wait times.

Historically, ERs can become backlogged by cases that are better suited for urgent care centres, which handle less serious medical problems and generally have shorter wait times.

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■ **HEALTH CARE:** Retired police officer 'looking forward to leading the foundation'

Falls resident named OneFoundation chairman

RAY SPITERI
Postmedia Network

One of Joe Maggiolo's goals as new chairman of Niagara Health System's fundraising team will be to continue educating the public about how vital its support will be to ensuring strong hospital care.

The Niagara Falls resident said many people in the community do not realize the provincial government does not pay for hospital equipment. While Queen's Park funds bricks, mortar and the day-to-day operations of hospitals, everything else that goes into hospitals comes from the pockets of donors.

"The equipment needs to be met by them in the community," said Maggiolo. "Part of my job will be to let everyone know that fact, that this is our community, that these are our hospitals, and here's why we need to support them."

OneFoundation, a volunteer board of directors assembled from all corners of

Niagara to raise money in support of all NHS hospitals, has appointed Maggiolo as incoming chair. He was welcomed at the foundation's annual general meeting Oct. 22 by outgoing chair Mike Watt.

Maggiolo is a retired police officer. He last served as staff sergeant with Niagara Regional Police, where he spent the last 22 years of his 37-year policing career.

He said he developed an interest for supporting his community on many fronts, and is passionate about fundraising for local health-care services.

"After policing for years in Niagara and calling it home for the last two decades, I care about the health and well-being of this community," said Maggiolo.

"In recent years, we have seen incredible advancements at our hospitals that have been backed by many generous donors who have championed health care in our region.

"Building on this success, I'm looking forward to leading the foundation as we

partner with new and long-standing donors to help keep our hospitals equipped to provide first-rate care."

Prior to joining the OneFoundation board in 2014, Maggiolo served as executive board member for Greater Niagara General Hospital Foundation from 2007 to 2014.

His community involvement also includes appointments with

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the Order Sons of Italy Canada, serving as Club Italia's president and holding positions of national trustee and national orator for the Order's National Grand Council.

He was also co-chair of the Motorcycle Ride for Dad's Niagara Chapter from 2010-13 to help raise money and awareness for prostate cancer care.

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FRANKI BREMAN/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

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Vegetation Clearing Notice for Transmission Line For the Niagara Region Wind Project, FWRN LP

Project Name Niagara Region Wind Project (the "Project")
Project Location Within the Townships of West Lincoln and Wainfleet and the Town of Lincoln in the Niagara Region and Haldimand County in Southern Ontario

Notice Dated At Haldimand County and Niagara Region, the 28 of October 2015.

Niagara Region Wind Corporation, now FWRN LP (the "Proponent"), is planning to engage in a renewable energy project for which a Renewable Energy Approval ("REA") was issued by the Ministry of the Environment (now the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change) on November 21, 2014.

Project Description

The Project is located within the Townships of West Lincoln and Wainfleet and the Town of Lincoln in the Niagara Region and Haldimand County in Southern Ontario. The Project will consist of 77 wind turbine generators, step-up transformer, electrical collector lines, a transmission line, two transformer substations, turbine access roads and construction staging areas. The Project will have a total maximum nameplate capacity of up to 230 MW.

Commencement of Vegetation Trimming and Clearing for Transmission Line Infrastructure

In order to build the transmission line, vegetation in the right of way must be trimmed or cleared as per the Electrical Safety Authority guidelines and the municipal standards for trimming and clearing.

The vegetation trimming and clearing in the right of way will occur on the following roads: Creek Road, Sideroad 42, Concession Road 6, Shafley Road, Highway 3, Wainfleet Dunnville Townline Road, Mountainview Road, Walker

Road, Fly Road, Mud Street, Thirty Road, Young Street, South Grimsby Road 5, Regional Road 20, South Grimsby Road 6, Smithville Road, Tober Road, Sixteen Road, Port Davidson Road, Concession Road 4, and Canborough Road. The trimming or clearing in the right of way is scheduled to begin the week of November 9, 2015 and will last for a total of eight weeks.

Every effort will be made to limit disruption and minimize any inconveniences to residents.

For further information about the Niagara Region Wind Farm, please visit the project website at: www.nrwc.ca

Project Contact Information Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the vegetation trimming or clearing, please contact:



PROJECT CONTACT
 Shiloh Berriman
 Email: shiloh.berriman@enrconrde
 Cell: 289-683-2563

CONTRACTOR CONTACT
 John Niro
 Email: jniro@eptcon.com
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IN BRIEF

Port Colborne city council notebook

City advisory committees formed

Two committees were formed at last Monday's Port Colborne city council meeting. Council approved the creation of an economic development advisory committee and a tourism and marketing advisory committee. Both are ad-hoc committees

of council whose mandates are to provide input and advice to council and staff pertaining to their areas of expertise.

City staff will now seek members to sit on each committee.

Water meter replacement project OK'd

City council has approved a

report from the municipality's engineering and operations department for the replacement of approximately 5,200 city water meters.

The project will replace all analog water meters and upgrade older radio-frequency water meters and is expected to be completed by July 2016.

The total cost of the project

is estimated to fall between \$2,045,268 and \$2,095,368.

Ward 3 Coun. Frank Danch raised concerns of spending \$2 million on water meters and tamper-proof screws. Although a few councillors also raised concerns about the steep price tag, the report carried in a 7-1 vote, with Danch being the only opposition.



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■ **MUSIC:** Ashlynnne Vince makes short-list ballot in Hot Adult Contemporary category

Welland teen in the running for a Grammy

ALLAN BENNER
Postmedia Network

Ashlynnne Vince was anxiously preparing for a job interview on a recent Monday morning.

Just like many typical teenagers, the 18-year-old Welland resident was hoping to land a job at a restaurant to bring in a little extra cash.

While the Welland Centennial Secondary School graduate is an average teenager in many ways, there's one aspect of her life that sets her apart. There aren't many typical teenagers in the running for a Grammy Award in the hot adult contemporary category. Her song *Hold On To Love* has made the short-list bal-

lot for the top musical award offered in the United States, one of about 300 songs selected out of 21,000 entries.

She said her Nashville music producer, Tony Matoro, from independent label Plateau Music, shared the news earlier in October.

"It was exciting," she said. Vince, however, said she doesn't expect to win. She is now competing against "all the big names," she said, referring to well-known musical celebrities.

In comparison, "I'm just starting," she said. "I'm just building my name."

And there's a long way to go before the Grammy Awards are handed out Feb. 8 at Staples Center in Los Angeles.

She said the list of 300 entries on the ballot will be reduced to about 150 nominees. The winners in each of 30 categories will then be selected during the awards gala in February.

But even reaching the level she has exceeded her expectations.

"It's still amazing," she said. While she doesn't expect to win, Vince didn't expect two of her songs to make it to the Billboard's Mainstream Top 40 Indicator Charts either.

Her song *Hands Off* spent eight straight weeks on the list of songs receiving most airplay on U.S. radio stations, reaching No. 35 at its peak, and earlier this year, *Hold On To Love*, was



ALLAN BENNER/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Ashlynnne Vince, 18, is in the running for a Grammy Award, although she has a long way to go before the award winners are selected.

was on the list for seven weeks, peaking at No. 38.

She said the success her music has garnered is surprising, although "you hope for the best."

"You never know with music," she said, adding it's a very competitive market.

Vince is continuing to write and record songs for her next CD, which she hopes

to release next year, having recently returned from a trip to Nashville.

While her music is quickly gaining attention, Vince said has yet to earn much money as a result.

Right now, she said her passion for music is costing her more than it's earning for her.

"Right now it's very expensive, and I need help," Vince said, adding she's looking for sponsors as well as contributing any money she can.

"I have a lot of good people behind me, and especially the support from my family. It helps a lot," she said.

allan.benner@postmedia.ca
Twitter: @abenner1

SPOTLIGHT on service

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■ THOROLD COMMUNITY THEATRE



JEN HARDY / POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Actors Rob Goslin, Ryan Lunn, Lily Groulx, Lou Bradley, George Doros and Krissy Neumann perform in Thorold Community Theatre's production of *Money Matters*, which opens Friday.

Money Matters for the characters of Monet Manor

JEN HARDY
For Postmedia Network

What will happen when Monet Manor is bequeathed to a stranger, instead of the mother-daughter team that has taken care of the estate for the past 10 years?

The answer, and other hilarious scenarios, will be played out by Thorold Community Theatre in *Money Matters*, written by Michael and Susan Parker.

Opening night is Friday.

Director John Dickhout and his six actors have been rehearsing for the better part of the past month.

It is Dickhout's first play as a director. He usually shares the stage with the other actors, but because of a health condition he decided, after much encouragement by Lou Bradley, to get comfortable in the director's chair.

"The play is about ordinary people finding themselves in extraordinary situations," Dickhout said, adding that part of the play's charm for him.

Bradley said the characters in the play

were an important factor for her. She portrays Marilena Contesa de Buzescu Si Severin, a Romanian resident of Monet Manor.

Money Matters is the 15th play for Rob Goslin, who portrays George Seville.

For Lily Groulx, who plays Charmaine, and George Doros, who plays Bud Davis, it is the first time on the stage at Trinity United Church in Thorold.

Krissy Neumann plays Annie Seville and finds herself in a couple of situations with Ryan Lunn's character, Bernard Oppenheimer.

Tickets for *Money Matters* are \$15 and are available at: The Pie Man, Haine Funeral Home & Chapel, Iurymann Law Office, Garden City Cat Hospital and Jack Nash Fine Clothiers.

Performances are in the church's Community Hall at 15 Pine St. S.

Showtimes are on Fridays (Nov. 6, 13 and 20) at 8 p.m., Saturdays (Nov. 7, 14 and 21) at 8 p.m. and Sundays (Nov. 8 and 15) at 2 p.m.

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Niagara Region is making sure we're prepared for this growth through three projects that will help us plan where and how that growth will occur, and how it will be accommodated.



HOW WE GROW:

The Municipal Comprehensive Review will look at the land we have available across Niagara, and will ensure we have enough to sustain our expected growth to the year 2041. It will also examine how that land is distributed throughout Niagara.



HOW WE FLOW:

The Water and Wastewater Master Servicing Plan will ensure Niagara has the infrastructure to provide critical water and wastewater services to our growing region in a sustainable and financially responsible way.



HOW WE GO:

The Transportation Master Plan will look at how we currently travel in and around Niagara and how we can improve our transportation systems, including options for walking, cycling and public transit, to better serve Niagara's future needs.

GET INVOLVED:

Residents are invited to attend a Public Information Centre to learn how each of these projects contribute to Niagara's overall growth plan for the next 25 years, and how you can have your voice heard.

Nov. 17, 2015

Town of Grimsby

Council Chambers

160 Livingston Ave.

4 - 8 p.m.

Nov. 18, 2015

City of Port Colborne

Yale Health & Wellness Centre

550 Elizabeth St.

4 - 8 p.m.

Nov. 19, 2015

City of St. Catharines

Kiwanis Aquatic Centre

425 Carlton St.

4 - 8 p.m.

There is an opportunity at any time during this process for interested persons to bring comments and concerns to the attention of the project managers, and to review outstanding issues. If you have any questions or comments or wish to be added to the study mailing list, please contact us:

HOW WE GROW

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Planner

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HOW WE FLOW

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If you require any accommodations for a disability in order to attend and participate in meetings or events, please let us know in advance so that arrangements can be made in a timely manner. Special accessibility accommodations and materials in alternate formats can be arranged by contacting the Niagara Region's Accessibility Advisory Coordinator at 905-685-4225 ext. 3252 or accessibility@niagararegion.ca.

The Transportation and Water and Wastewater studies follow the Master Plan process as outlined in Section A.2.7 of the Municipal Engineers Association (MEA) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Oct 2000, as amended in 2007 and 2011). The Master Plan will be filed under Approach #2 of the MEA Class EA Approach for Master Planning. The Master Servicing Plan will satisfy the planning requirements for Schedule A, A+ and select Schedule B projects and provide the basis for future investigations of identified Schedule B and C projects.

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